

THE MILITARY MONITOR,

AND

AMERICAN REGISTER.

"THE PUBLIC GOOD OUR END."

Vol. I.]

MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1813.

[No. 19.

THE MILITARY MONITOR,
AND
AMERICAN REGISTER,
By T. O'CONNOR,

Is published every MONDAY morning, at \$3 per volume, or 52 numbers: \$1 to be paid in advance; \$1 on the publication of the 17th number; and \$1 on the publication of the 34th number.

Letters and Communications for this paper, must be forwarded free of postage.

NEW-YORK, 1812.

Official.

DOCUMENTS

Accompanying the President's Message to Congress.

(CONTINUED.)

Mr. Erving to Mr. Monroe, Secretary of State.

COPENHAGEN April 12th, 1812.

SIR—With my despatch No. 10, was submitted to you a copy of the reclamation dated November 4th, which I thought it my duty to make against the sentences of condemnation passed by the Danish tribunals, in the year 1809 and 1810, on American ships and cargoes. Mr. de Rosenkrantz was prevented at first by ill health and afterwards for a long time by a pressure of various business (as I understood) from laying it before the King; in the mean time he continually discouraged any expectation that his Majesty would accede to the propositions which it contains, persisting in his declaration to me on my first arrival here, that there was no remedy for the past; finding that in the usual course of business it was necessary for the Minister to inform himself fully and particularly as to the contents of the note, so as to submit it to the King by abstract only, I thought that I might at once expedite my object, and add to the probability of success in it, by having the note translated into the Danish lan-

guage; I sent such a translation to the Minister on the 22d January, requesting (by No. 1 of the enclosures) that the whole might be laid before the King.— This was done on the 14th of February, and on the same day the Minister addressed to me the note No. 2, relating to Danish claims on our government, to which I answered on the 17 February as by No. 3, and on the 9th instant I finally received the Minister's reply to my reclamation of November 4th, (No. 4 of the enclosures.)

All my former communications, sir, have prepared you for this result, and the most extraordinary delay of the King in announcing it, though so far creditable to him inasmuch as it denotes the reluctance with which he has come to a conclusion which he cannot conscientiously approve of, and which he has not found any admissible pleas to support or to countenance; yet has also afforded me the means of ascertaining that no favourable change of this determination is to be hoped for.

All the business which my appointment had in view being now completed and as there is not, as far as I know, one American vessel actually under detention, by Danish capture, in any port of this kingdom. After answering the Minister of State's note to suitable terms, I propose, pursuant to my instructions, to take leave and depart for Paris. I wrote yesterday to Mr. Barlow and as soon as they arrive which may be about the commencement of next month. I shall be entirely ready to make use of them. In the meantime I send home with this, and other despatches, my Secretary M. Lewis, whose fidelity, industry and zeal in the public service, I so entirely approve of, that I cannot but recommend him to your patronage and protection. Previous to my departure I propose, I have before mentioned to you, to present Mr. For-

bes in the quality of 'agent' to the Minister of State and to the other department of government here, and I doubt not but that if any of our vessels should hereafter be captured by Danish cruisers he will be able to afford them every assistance of which their cases may be susceptible, and that his respectability of character and his other qualifications will procure due attention to his official representations. I hope also that on my return to Paris I may be able to assist Mr. Barlow in obtaining a favourable adjustment of the questions which have arisen out of the French captures in this quarter.

It seems to be scarcely probable, even if we should not be at war with England, that any of our vessels which may have left the United States for Russia, will if they touch at Gottenburg for information, proceed on their voyages, for either the Emperor of France will occupy the Russian ports, or the Emperor of Russia will submit to his terms; in either of which cases those ports will be rigorously closed against "colonial produce" If the Emperor of Russia successfully resist, then his country will be inundated with whatever we could supply, by the commerce of England; in this last case it is not to be supposed that the English will take any neutral vessels under convoy; in the two former cases the neutral will not have any motive in joining the convoy: on the other hand, the French cruisers will certainly intercept every vessel not under convoy, which may enter the Baltic with colonial produce; and it is equally certain that such cruisers will be sufficiently numerous; for independent of the privateers properly French, the Danes have found so little encouragement for privateering during the last twelve months, that many of them are reduced to the necessity of seeking French commissions.

Mr. Lewis will carry with him the original of my despatch No. 10. which encloses authentic copies of the sentences therein referred to; in these, Sir, you will notice more particularly the extraordinary principles and offensive doctrines on which the tribunals have founded their decisions; and in case our country should still continue in peace, government, having the matter before it, will be able to give our commerce such direction, and to place it under such regulations as may best comport with its future security.

With the most perfect respect and consideration, I have the honor to be,

Sir, Your very obdt. sevt.

Signed, GEORGE W. ERVING,

No. 1.

Copenhagen, January 22d, 1812
To his Excellency Mr. de Rosenkrantz,
First Minister of State, &c. &c.

Sir—I have the honor herewith to enclose a translation into the Danish language of my note to your Excellency of November 4, and of the statement thereto annexed. These I have caused to be prepared with particular care, trusting that you will be pleased to lay them in their entire form before his Majesty.

I cannot but take this occasion of renewing to your Excellency the expression of my earnest desire that you would enable me to transmit to my government his Majesty's resolutions on the subject; nor of my anxiety that those resolutions, marked by the enlightened and friendly policy which I have anticipated in my reports to my government may correspond to the just expectations of the United States, and cement that harmony and good understanding between the two countries, which ought, always to subsist.

I have the honor, &c.

Signed, GEORGE W. ERVING.

No. 2.

TRANSLATION.

The Danish brig *Henrick*, Captain *Scheel*, departed for Cape Francois in 1799, was captured in the month of October, of the said year, by a French privateer, and re-captured a few days after by the United States' ship *Pickering*, which took her into the Island of St. Christophers, where she was condemned on the ground of being re-captured, whereby the owner, only obtained about one half part of the vessel and cargo.

The American government ought to be held for this measure, having by their instructions of the 12th March, 1799, authorised her armed vessels to re capture all prizes taken by French privateers. The sentence of condemnation pronounced, appears also, to con-

tain an inadmissible application of the American laws, which do not relate to the re-capture of *neutral* vessels. The two accompanying printed documents prove, that Mr. Madison, then Secretary of State of the United States, recognised the validity of the claim and recommended the interests of the claimant to Congress. The owner, however, having been frustrated in his attempt to obtain the compensation due to him has been obliged to institute a suit against the officers who recaptured his vessel, of which he is still waiting the issue.

A similar claim was preferred by the owner of the ship *Mercator*, captured in 1810, by Lieutenant *Maley*, commander of the United States' vessel *Experiment*, afterwards taken by a British cruiser, which carried her into Jamaica, where she was declared a good prize.

It is shown by the annexed printed report, that damage to the amount of 33,864 dollars, has been awarded to the owner in this case; but he has not yet been able to obtain payment.

In presenting these claims to the notice of Mr. Erving, the special minister of the United States of America, the undersigned Minister of State, and chief of Department of Foreign Affairs, flatters himself, that he will lay them before his government, and endeavor to obtain for the parties interested, that indemnity, which the justice of their claims so evidently calls for; but which the intervention of his Majesty's Charge des affaires, has not, to the present period, been able to accomplish.

The undersigned, in praying Mr. Erving, to have the goodness to return to him the enclosures, avail himself of the opportunity of renewing the continued assurance of his high consideration.

(Signed)

N. ROSENKRANTZ
Copenhagen, 14th February, 1812,

Copy of a dispatch from Brigadier General Smyth to Major General Dearborne, transmitted to the Secretary at War.

CAMP, NEAR BUFFALOE,
4th Dec. 1812.

Sir—The troops under my command having been ordered to hibernate for the winter, it becomes my duty to report to you the proceedings had here since I took the command on this frontier.

On or about the 26th of October, I ordered that 20 scows should be prepared for the transportation of artillery and cavalry, and put the carpenters of the army upon that duty.

By the 26th of November, ten scows were completed; and by bringing boats

from Lake Ontario, the number was increased to seventy.

I had issued an address to the men of New-York, and perhaps 300 volunteers had arrived at Buffalo. I presumed that the regular troops, and the volunteers under cols. Swint and M'Clure, would furnish 2300 men fit for duty & of gen. Tannehill's brigade, reporting a total of 1650, as many as 413 had volunteered to cross into Canada I deemed myself ready to "cross with 3000 men at once," according to your orders.

Preparatory thereto, on the night of the 27th November, I sent over two parties; one under lieutenant col. Boerstler; the other under capt. King, with whom lieutenant Angus of the navy, at the head of a body of seamen, united. The first mentioned party was to capture a guard, and destroy a bridge about five miles below Fort Erie; the second party were to take and render useless the cannon of the enemy's batteries and some pieces of light artillery. The first party made some prisoners, but failed to destroy the bridge; the second party, after rendering unserviceable the light artillery, separated by some misapprehension. Lieutenant Angus, the seamen, and a part of the troops returned, with all the boats, while capt. King, capt. Morgan, capt. Sproul, lieutenant Houston, and about sixty men, remained. Capt. King, notwithstanding, with those under his command, advanced, to the enemy's batteries, attacked and took two of them in succession, rendered unserviceable the cannon, and took a number of prisoners. In descending the Niagara some distance, two boats were found, on board of which capt. King sent his prisoners, all his officers, and half his men. His high sense of honor would not allow him to quit the remainder. He was captured with them.

Orders had been given that all the troops in the neighborhood should march as reveillee to the place of embarkation. A part of the detachment sent in the night having returned, and having excited apprehensions for the residue, about 250 men under col. Winder put off in boats for the opposite shore; a part of their force had landed, when a force with a piece of artillery appeared. A retreat was ordered; and col. Winder's detachment suffered a loss of six killed and twenty wounded, of whom six were officers.

The general embarkation commenced as the troops arrived; but this being the first time the troops had embarked, the whole of the scows were occupied by about one third part of the artillery, while about 800 regular infantry, something upwards of 200 twelve-months

volunteers, and perhaps 200 of those militia who had volunteered their services for a few days, occupied all the boats that were ready. The troops then embarked, moved up the stream to Black Rock, without sustaining loss from the enemy's fire. It was now the afternoon, and they were ordered to disembark and dine.

The enemy shewed a force estimated at 5 or 600 men, drawn up in a field at some distance from the river and had one piece of artillery, said to be a 9 pounder, ready to fire on our troops.

There remained unembarked, a part of the artillery; a few cavalry: the volunteers under col. M'Clure, amounting on that day to 340 men; a detachment from gen. Tannehill's brigade (number unknown and little relied on)* There were also sundry crowds who might, perhaps, have followed the army—if it was successful.

Recollecting your instructions "to cross with 3000 men at once" and to consult some of my principal officers in "all important movements" I called for the field officers of the regular and twelve months' volunteers embarked. Col. Porter, not being found at the moment, capt. Gibson was called as the next senior officer of artillery.

These questions were put—"Is it expedient now to cross over? Is the force we have sufficient to conquer the opposite coast?"

The first question was decided in the negative by colonels Parker, Scuyler, Winder, lieut. cols. Boerstler and Coles, and major Campbell. Col. Swift of the volunteers alone gave an opinion for then crossing.

The second question was not decided. Col. Parker, Col. Scuyler, lieut. col. Coles, and major Campbell, were decidedly of opinion that the force was insufficient. Col. Winder, col. Swift, lieut. col. Boerstler and captain Gibson deemed the force sufficient.

I determined to postpone crossing over until more complete preparation would enable me to embark the whole force at once, according to your instructions. The next day was spent in such preparations; and the troops were ordered to be again at the place of embarkation at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 30th November. On their arrival, they were sent into adjacent woods, there to build fires and remain until 3 o'clock in the morning of the 1st December, when it was intended to put off two hours before day-light, so as to a-

void the fire of the enemy's cannon; in passing the position which it was believed they occupied below, to land above Chippeway, assault that place, and if successful, march through Queens-town for Fort George. The contractor was called on to furnish rations for 2500 men for four days, when it was found he could furnish the pork but not the flour. Sixty barrels were required, and only thirty-five furnished.

The embarkation commenced, but was delayed by circumstances, so as not to be completed until after day light, when it was found that the regular infantry, 688 men; the artillery, 177 men, col. Swift's volunteers, about 230; six companies of federal volunteers, amounting to 276 men; about 100 militia of col. Dobbin's regiment, and a few men in a boat with Mr. P. B. Porter, contractor's agent, who was to pilot the enterprize, had embarked; the whole on board, without the commissioned officers, being 1500 men, or thereabouts, and it was now two hours later than the time fixed on for setting out. There were some groups of men not yet embarked; they were applied to, requested, and ordered by the brigade major, to get into the boats; they did not. He estimated their number at 150; it was probably greater.

It then became a question whether it was expedient to invade Canada, in open day-light, with 1500 men, at a point where no reinforcement could be expected for some days. I saw that the number of the regular troops was declining rapidly. I knew that on them chiefly I was to depend.

I called together the officers commanding corps of the regular army. Col. Parker being sick, those present were col. Porter of the artillery, col. Schuyler, col. Winder, and lieut. col. Coles.

I put to them this question: "Shall we proceed?"

They unanimously decided that we ought not.

I foresaw that the volunteers who had come out for a few days would disperse. Several of them had on the evening of the 25th broken their musquets, because they had not seen a battle. I foresaw that the number of the regular troops would decrease; the measles has affected them generally; the constant use of fresh meat had produced dysenteries, and they were now in tents in the month of December. I informed the officers that the attempt to invade Canada would not be made until the army was reinforced, and directed them to withdraw their troops, and cover them with huts immediately.

The volunteers and neighboring people were dissatisfied, and it has been in the power of the contractor's agent to excite some clamor against the course pursued. He finds the contract a losing one at this time, and would wish to see the army in Canada, that he might not be bound to supply it.

I am sorry the situation of the force under my command had not been such as to make the propriety of a forward movement obvious to all. Circumstanced as we were, I have thought it my duty to follow the cautious counsels of experience, and not by precipitation, to add another to the list of our defeats.

You will perceive my motives by my letter of the 30th October, wherein I said, "I would cross in three days if I had the means. Without them, it would be injustice to the nation, and myself to attempt it. *I must not be defeated.*"

Allow me to recommend to your attention, and that of the Secretary of War, captain William King, of the 15th infantry, as an officer of the first class. His dauntless bravery, refined mind, high sense of honor, and ambition to distinguish himself, render him a fit subject for promotion; and he is, perhaps, the best disciplinarian in the army.

I have the honor to be,

With perfect respect, sir,

Your most obedient,

ALEXANDER SMYTH,

Brigadier-General.

Major Gen. Dearborn.

IMPRISONMENT OF SEAMEN.

The Speaker laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States:

To the House of Representatives of the United States.

I transmit to the House of Representatives a report of the Secretary of State, complying with their resolution of the 9th inst.

JAMES MADISON.

December 21st, 1812.

REPORT.

The Secretary of State, to whom was referred the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 9th inst. requesting information touching the conduct of British officers towards persons taken in American armed ships, has the honor to lay before the President the accompanying papers marked A. B. C. from which it appears, that certain persons, some of whom are said to be native, and others naturalized citizens of the United States, being parts of the crews of the United States' armed vessels the "Nautilus" and the "Wasp," and of the private armed vessel, the "Sarah Ann,"

*Six hundred men of this brigade are said to have deserted in 24 hours. A court martial of this brigade fined a volunteer twelve and a half cents for desertion.

have been seized, under the pretext of their being British subjects, by British officers for the avowed purpose, as is understood, of having them brought to trial for their lives, and that others, being part of the crew of the Nautilus, have been taken into the British service.

The Secretary of state begs leave also to lay before the President the papers marked D. and E. From these it will be seen, that whilst the British naval officers arrest as criminals such persons taken on board American armed vessels as they may consider British subjects, they claim a right to retain on board British ships of war American citizens who may have married in England, or been impressed from on board British merchant vessels; and that they consider an impressed American, when he is discharged from one of their ships, as a prisoner of war. All which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES MONROE.

*Department of State,
December 19, 1812.*

(A)

SIR JOHN BORLASE WARREN TO MR. MONROE.
Halifax, 30th Sept. 1812.

SIR,

Having received information that a most unauthorised act has been committed by commodore Rodgers, in forcibly seizing twelve British seamen, prisoners of war, late belonging to the Guerrier, and taking them out of the English cartel ship the Endeavor on her passage down the harbor of Boston, after they had been regularly embarked on board of her for an exchange, agreeable to the arrangements settled between the two countries, and that the said British seamen, so seized, are now detained on board the U. S. frigate President as hostages; I feel myself called upon to request, sir, your most serious attention to a measure so fraught with mischief and inconvenience, destructive of the good faith of a flag of truce and the sacred protection of a cartel. I should be extremely sorry that the imprudent act of any officer should involve consequences so particularly severe as the present instance must naturally produce, if repeated; and although it is very much my wish, during the continuance of the differences existing between the two countries, to adopt every measure that might render the effect of war less rigorous, yet, in another point of view, the conviction of the duty I owe my country, would, in the event of such grievances as I have already stated being continued, not admit of any hesitation in retaliatory decisions; but as I am strongly persuaded of the high liberality of your

sentiments, and that the act complained of has originated entirely with the officer who committed it, and that it will be as censurable in your consideration as it deserves, I rely upon your taking such steps as will prevent a recurrence of conduct so extremely reprehensible in every shape.

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, Sir, your most obedient and most faithful humble servant
(Signed) JOHN BORLASE WARREN,
Admiral of the blue and Commander in Chief, &c.

*His Excellency James Monroe Esq.
Secretary of State.*

MR. MONROE TO SIR JOHN BORLASE WARREN.

*Department of State,
Oct. 28th 1812.*

SIR—I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 30th Sept. complaining that com. Rodgers, commanding a squadron of the U. States' navy at the port of Boston, had taken twelve British seamen, lately belonging to his Britannic Majesty's ship the Guerriere, from a cartel in the harbor of Boston, and that he detained them on board the President, a frigate of the United States, as hostages.

I am instructed to inform you, that inquiry shall be made into the circumstances attending, & the causes which produced the act of which you complain: and that such measures will be taken, on the knowledge of them, as may comport with the rights of both nations, and may be proper in the case to which they relate.

I beg you, sir, to be assured that it is the sincere desire of the President to see (and to promote, as far as depends on the U. States) that the war which exists between our countries be conducted with the utmost regard to humanity.

I have the honor, &c.

(Signed) **JAMES MONROE.**
Sir John Borlase Warren, Adm. of the Blue, and Commander in Chief, &c.

B

Washington, Dec. 17, 1812.

SIR—I have the honor to annex a list of 12 of the crew of the late U. S. sloop of war Wasp, detained by Capt. John Berresford, of the British ship Poictiers, under the pretence of their being British subjects.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, sir,

Your ob't servant

[Here follow several other documents, already published or not deemed of material importance, except the following:]

C

Extract of a letter from major-general

Pinckney to the Secretary of War, dated.

HEAD-QUARTERS CHARLESTON,

4th November, 1812.

"Information having been given upon oath to lieut. Grandison, who at present commands in the Naval, Department here, that six American seamen, who had been taken prisoner on board of our privateers, had been sent to Jamaica to be tried as British subjects for treason, he called upon the marshal to retain double that number of British seamen as hostages. The marshal, in consequence of instructions from the Department of State, asked my advice on the subject, and I have given my opinion that they ought to be detained until the pleasure of the President shall be known. The testimony of Capt. Moon is herewith.—I hope, sir, you will have the goodness to have this business put in the proper train to have the President's pleasure on this subject communicated to the marshal."

The message and documents were on motion referred to the committee on Foreign Relations.

BUFFALO, Dec. 8.

To the Editor of the Buffaloe Gazette.

SIR,

A friend has just handed me a proof sheet of your paper of this morning, in which is contained what purports to be general Smyth's *Official* account of the affairs of the 28th of Nov. and 1st Dec.

I beg that you will suspend the publication so long as to assure the public that in your next I will give a *true* account of some of the most prominent transactions of those days.

When our lives, our property; when the precious and dear bought gift of our ancestors—the sacred honor of our country; when every thing that we prize as men, or ought to hold dear as patriots, are falling and fading before us, it is time to speak out, whatever be the hazard.

In ascribing, as I shall not hesitate to do, the late disgrace on this frontier to the cowardice of gen. Smyth, I beg to be understood as not intending to impute the characters of the officers whose opinions he has brought forward to bolster up his conduct. Several of them I know to be as brave men as ever wielded a sword; and their advice, if indeed they gave the advice imputed to them, may be accounted for in the obvious consideration, with which every one who saw him must have been impressed, that any military attempts under such a leader, must in all human probability prove disgraceful.

PETER B. PORTER.

FOR THE MILITARY MONITOR.

Defence of New-York.

No. XII.

Amongst the militia, I proposed to enrol the free men of colour, with a view of employing them in a separate corps as Pioneers. I have heard such cogent reasons since, against the propriety of the plan, that I deem it right to relinquish the design; nor would I now take any notice of this description of persons, if I could well avoid it; a recurrence to No. 7, wherein they are mentioned, will, it is hoped show the necessity I was under of again introducing them.

A corps of Pioneers, is absolutely necessary to aid in the defence of this city; and at a time, when so many of our citizens are volunteering into the service of the United States, it would be well not to overlook the importance of one or more corps of this description.

They should be commanded by officers selected from amongst Architects or Builders of ability, or from men of some practical knowledge in engineering.

A bridge of boats should also be included amongst our means of defence, and as it cannot be expected from the general government, the executive of this state would do well to recommend to the legislature to provide one: the people of this city would derive more advantage from the facility which such a bridge would afford to the passage of troops, than they ever will from all the encampments of militia, which were witnessed in the neighbourhood of New-York, during the last Autumn.

Thanks to the genius of Fulton, his Steam-boats, in the absence of bridges, furnish means for conveying troops across rivers, which are possessed by no other country, however they may excel us in their improvements of the military art.

The Seamen of the harbour, should be formed into a marine brigade, to man the boats in which the troops would be carried over.

A certain number of men, and boats sufficient for transporting a regiment in one trip across the East River might be denominated a Squadron, and be numbered, and distinguished by a uniform flag, carried in each boat, but differing in colour from the flags of the other squadrons.

Proper places for the embarkation of the troops ought to be fixed on, so as that the whole might enter at once by regiments. On Long Island, points for debarkation should also be prepared and

proper precautions taken to afford every facility to the march of the troops, on as large a front as possible—the more columns the better.

Many, who have never had an opportunity of witnessing the embarkation or debarkation of troops, will think me perhaps unnecessarily particular, in entering so minutely into the detail of operations so simple in themselves, with the manner of performing which our officers must be already well acquainted.

Without pretending to question their information, I shall only observe, that the embarkation of general Smyth's army occupied some hours, and, that in its execution it was tardy and accompanied with much noise and confusion.

It therefore seems not bad reasoning to say that the embarkation of our militia to attack an enemy on Long Island, would, at least, take up as much time, and cause as much noise and confusion, as did that of the troops at Buffalo on the first of December. Indeed I fear ours would resemble the pell mell retreat of a broken army to their boats, rather than the orderly march of a regular organized corps advancing to give battle.

I recollect a field officer once during the last war between France and England, who, on the morning of a battle evinced an uncommon degree of impatience; on being asked for the cause, he replied, I am anxious to know how the regiment will behave, I have not seen them engaged since the American war.

From the same motives I should not regret the false alarm of the landing of a few seamen and marines, as I must confess that I am anxious to see our militia cross the East River: one of such trip might convince us that nothing ought to be left to chance; and—that we should not be indebted for our safety either to the generosity, the interest, or the "religion" of Britain.

Let every man seriously revolve in his mind what he would do if an enemy were landed in the neighbourhood of New-York—He must see the necessity of teaching all the proper use of arms, and assigning the citizens those posts that they are to occupy in any possible emergency.

More must be done to prove our attachment to country than **RESOLVING UNANIMOUSLY**. Time and money must be expended. All classes must be awakened to a sense of danger from which there can be no security except in knowing how to conquer the enemy.

It is no time to "dispute about straws" when the service of every man in the country should be put into requisition.

Patriotism knows no party but the country.—Bigots and Zealots will never learn sense; they will not be convinced that though people necessarily differ respecting measures & men, yet, when the enemy is expected to assail the gates all should tolerate and unite—for this best of all possible reasons—it is our interest. Were the enemy to conquer, we would suffer the loss of property—many would die in vain—the liberty of the Press would then be but a name indeed as the survivors would not be indulged in the sad privilege of abusing each other.

When the Turks besieged by Byzantium, the inhabitants were so eagerly disputing respecting the meaning of a certain Greek word that they could not spare time to defend the city. They could agree in nothing except in **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVING** to accept of no aid from the Latin Princes whom they looked upon as Schismatics. The city was taken and the Cimiter of Mahomet soon silenced the rancorous christian Theologians.

Whether is this history to be read for amusement or instruction? change but the names and there will be found more nations than one who have acted as ridiculously as the Greeks of Constantino-ple! Posterity will decide justly on their demerits, whilst the historian will record without sympathy the fall of people unworthy of being independent, because, they willed "not to defend themselves."

FOR THE MILITARY MONITOR.

I had opportunities of visiting several encampments of troops during the course of last Autumn, and observed that the tents were pitched in two or more rows parallel to the front, the officers marquees being placed on the right of their respective platoons or sections. It struck me as being an improper mode of camping, I would therefore wish to know your sentiments on the subject.

PYRRHUS.

We answer—The mode is an improper one; because the front of such an encampment, like our city columns on a march, would occupy more ground than would be necessary for the line to form on.

In the camps of infantry the tents are usually pitched by companies, in rows perpendicular to the front—The ground allowed for each file of infantry is two feet. For each file of cavalry three feet. Where there are Grenadiers and light infantry, they are placed on the flanks in single rows, and all the others in double rows.

The distance between the double rows will be three feet, consequently the breadth of a row in front multiplied by the whole number of rows and that product, more the space of the intervals subtracted from the length of ground allowed the battalion in front will give the space for the streets or company parades, all of which are to be of the same breadth except the centre street which is usually double that of the others.

Where there are two field pieces attached to a battalion they are posted on the right in a line with the sergeants tents which are at the head of each street.

Bell tents for the arms of each company, made of strong striped ticking, should be in front of the sergeants tents where the men might deposit their arms after coming off duty.

The Subalterns tents are pitched 15 yards in rear of their companies, opening to the rear.

The Captains 15 yards in rear of the subalterns their tents opening to the front.

Lieut. Colonel 10 yards in rear of the outside street on the right, Major 10 yards in rear of the outside street on the left their tents open to the front.

Colonel 10 yards in rear of the centre or main street his tent opens to the front.

Chaplain, Adjutant, quarter master, surgeon and surgeon's mates 10 yards in rear of the colonel opening up the streets next the main street.

Bat. men and bat. horses grand sutler &c. are encamped in several lines as conveniently as possible. In their rear the ketches are fixed—beyond them are the petty or retail sutlers and 15 yards farther is the rear guard tent which opens to the rear

The Military Monitor.

NEW-YORK,

MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 4, 1813.

SUBSCRIBERS

To the MILITARY MONITOR, are respectfully reminded, that according to the terms of publication, there is now due from each Subscriber, who has not paid *any thing*, \$2, and from each of those who have paid \$1, there is another due—each subscriber in arrear it is hoped will immediately forward the amount he may owe—the sum is so very trifling, THEY cannot feel it, but the whole amounts to a sum so considerable, that the Editor would be greatly benefited by the receipt of it.

To those who have forwarded a years subscription in advance, the Editor returns his grateful acknowledgements, such liberality, if it was more general would enable him to meet with ease, a considerable expense, soon to be met, for engraving, &c.

He does not require this of any of his subscribers, but where it is convenient, he will be very grateful for the favour. The 4 first numbers will be published in the present month, and forwarded to subscribers. If any subscribers have not received their papers regularly, they will please to give notice at the Printing Office, and their future delivery will be attended to, if any number has not been received by any of his friends, the editor by being made acquainted with it and the papers wanting, if desired will supply them.

Persons desirous of becoming subscribers are informd they can be supplied with all the numbers published.

We are happy to learn, that the frigate President, Com. Rodgers. and the frigate Congress, arrived at Boston on Friday last, we hope, we shall be able to present the official account of his cruise in our next.

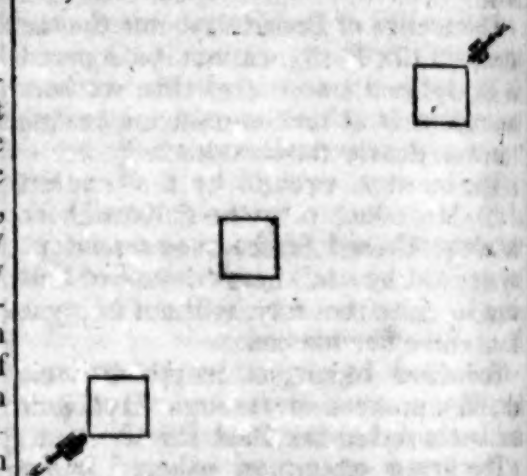
ROYAL BRITISH PROCLAMATION.—The feeble attempt of the British Regent to deter the naturalized citizens of the United States from entering into the naval service of their adopted country, will be viewed in its proper light by every reader. It is material to know that, by the law of England as construed by British judges, no subject can transfer his allegiance; and that, of course, no certificate of naturalization can save, from the effect of royal displeasure, those persons who were born in his majesty's dominions, and who may be found "on board ships or vessels belonging to the United States of America, with intent to commit hostilities against his Majesty's subjects." That this threat is not intended to be acted on, according to its literal import, is certain, because the enemy will not *dare* so to act on it, while retaliation is in the power, and would be the duty of the American government. The law by which an alien becomes naturalized and identified with the native citizens, secures to him safe protection against any injuries that may be attempted by his former sovereign. This doctrine ought not be disputed by England, as long as she declares that two years voluntary service in her navy is to entitle foreigners to all the privileges and protection of natural born subjects—British subjects, who have not been naturalized, will, if taken on board the armed vessels of the United States, be treated as threatened in the proclamation: but American citizens whether by birth or adoption, are under the protection of the law, and have nothing to fear from British Proclamations.

PRIVATEERING.—The application made to Congress by owners of private armed vessels cruising against the ene-

my will not probably be attended to in the manner contemplated by the petitioners; & there seems to be strong cause

why it should not—It is, however, to be regretted that the individuals, who have borne all the hardships and exposed their persons and lives on board privateers, have not, hitherto, been adequately compensated; and, we apprehend that, unless the adventurers be relieved in some manner, a species of warfare, so peculiarly calculated to annoy the enemy, will be much lessened or totally stopped. In a future number, this subject will be more amply treated.

The Diagrams illustrative of the observations on the square, in our last number, should stand thus—



And the description should read—the right or advanced square will move inward by its left face, till its left rear angle would be nearly in line with the right front angle of the centre square,—the left or retired square would move inward by the right face, till its right front angle would be nearly in line with the left rear angle of the centre square. If the squares are ordered to approach so close as to leave but a small interval, the movement must be by the angles which is always difficult to perform with squares of unequal sides or parallelograms.

Summary.

The Military Committee in the House of Representatives, have reported a bill for the augmentation of the Army, by a second Major to each regiment, a third Lieutenant and an additional Sergeant to each troop and company in the service of the United States. The bounty on enlistment is also to be increased to forty Dollars, and the recruiting officer is to be allowed 5 dollars for each man he enlists.

Another bill has been reported, the object of which is, to raise twenty ad-

ditional regiments of Infantry, to serve for one year if not sooner discharged.

We hope this bill will receive the following amendment—after the word year “or during the present war.”

The severity of the season having suspended all operations against Canada, we hope that every opportunity of fair weather will be seized with avidity to practise the troops in the evolutions, that will be necessary in a Canadian campaign.

The moment for conquering our enemy, by undisciplined valour has passed away, and all hopes of “looking down opposition” in future, must be derived from the valour of a regular force—regular, not merely in name—but in discipline.

The tactics of Broadway, nor the tactics of the Park, cannot be a match for disciplined troops; of this, we hope the nation is at last convinced, having “paid so dearly for its whistle.”

The interest excited by the capture of the Macedonian by the gallant Decatur of the United States, was considerably excited by the long delay of both ships so near the city, without being able to enter our harbour.

The wind having at length become fair, they proceeded through Hurl gate and anchored in the East River.

The firing of cannon ushered in the new year, and announced the glad tidings of “His Majesty’s” late ship the Macedonian, being “safe moored” at the Navy Yard.

Thousands of our rejoiced citizens soon assembled to witness the pleasing spectacle of “the red cross flag” of Britain, reversed under the American stars and stripes which proudly waved aloft in triumph, emblematic of their future greatness—“We accept the Omen” of Britain’s downfall; which to record we hope will be our pleasing task before the next new year.

We observed many of “our friends out of Congress,” very busy in the holy cause of the mother country, endeavouring to lessen the magnitude of the exploit by invidious comparisons of the strength of each ship. To the “friends” we would say—go on gentlemen—we have no objection that Com. Decatur should capture every ship in the British navy of an inferior force to the U. States.

Extracts.

MAJOR CUYLER.

[FROM THE NEW-YORK GAZETTE, NOV. 20] The following address was pronounced over the grave of Major William H. Cuyler, by Jonathan E. Chaplin, Esq. in consequence of a request from Major Gen. Hall:

Friends, Soldiers & Fellow Citizens.

From every passing hour we receive some gloomy proof “that man was made to mourn.” The sum of earthly happiness is at best but small—its duration is like the fleeting meteor of a moment, and its tenor is but a frail and slender thread, which even a breath dissolves, and leaves fond anticipating man desolate and forlorn. At one moment the heart is warmed and expanded by the brilliant sun-beams of felicity, and exulting in the anticipated triumph of its wishes. In the next, disappointment shakes her withering wand, and all is gloomy, dark and hopeless! To day we are gladdened by the smile of friendship; the cares of life are soothed and dissipated by its sympathising tenderness, and whatever storms of misery may assail us, a gleam of happiness still darts through the surrounding gloom.—To morrow the cold hand of death snaps at once the ties of friendship and the happiness which it brings: swift as an arrow from the Indian’s bow, he hurls his fatal and unerring shaft. The blooming flowers of bliss are in a moment withered, and all our budding expectations blasted forever. We here behold a mournful proof that the finger of destiny has inscribed all human hopes with the name of “Frailty.” But a little while since, and our friend was glowing in health, and strength, and vigor. We have now brought him to his grave, from whose bourne he can never more return. While we mourn and lament his death, let us endeavor to emulate his usefulness in life. His days have not been passed in idleness and obscurity, and though called away when just ripening in the maturity of manhood, he has left a name behind him, which those who thirst for virtuous fame might well be proud to bear.

With the particulars of Maj. Cuyler’s life, I am but too little acquainted.—Those, however, who have known him from his infancy to his death, can attest his worth. Even the acquaintance of a single day, was sufficient to convince us, that his heart bore the impression of the noblest qualities of man. His benevolence and philanthropy were conspicuous in all his actions. Many who are here mourning around his grave, have often witnessed with what assiduity, he exerted himself to relieve the miseries, to sooth the cares, and mitigate the sorrows of those, whose prospects had been darkened by a frowning fortune. His situation in life was such as to enable him to gratify the benevolent wishes of his heart. The blessings of Heaven seemed to have descended upon him, and all around appeared to conspire to crown

his life with happiness. All the joys that wealth could purchase were within his grasp. His bosom knew those grateful feelings that spring from a consciousness that we are respected and beloved by all around us. The affection of a fond and doating wife, who is represented as among the most amiable of her sex, had given to his home, a charm which nothing could dissolve. Three infant children, as they played around his fire side, awakened the tenderest feelings of the parent, and gave him all a father’s happiness.

While thus enjoying every domestic felicity, the din of war reached his ears. His country has resorted to arms against a powerful nation, and called upon her children to exchange the sweets of peace and tranquility, for hardship, havoc, carnage and slaughter. His courage and patriotism were too great to suffer him to remain an idle spectator of the contest. His country, indeed, seemed to overlook his merits. Those, however, who possess worth themselves, are the first to distinguish it in others. Major Cuyler was solicited by Major Gen. Hall to attend him to the frontier of our country in capacity of an aid. His patriotism prevailed over every selfish consideration, and friends and wife, and children, and home, all, all were left for the service of his country.

ALAS!

“Nor wife, nor children, more shall he behold, nor friends, nor sacred home.”

The scrupulous faithfulness and promptitude with which he discharged his duty as a soldier, the extreme anxiety he felt for the honor of his country’s arms, the courage and magnanimity he displayed whenever an occasion called them forth, are too well known to need my humble efforts to proclaim them.

Indeed the manner of his death proclaims them louder than could the claron of fame itself—had his life been longer spared, no doubt he would have encircled his own brows with a soldier’s unfading laurels, and have been a firm pillar, on which his country might have leaned for support. But he is gone for ever! and while we mourn his loss, let us endeavor to immitate his virtues, and teach our hearts to become assimilated to his.

Those of every situation in life can find something in his character which, if stampd upon their own, would make them respectable among men. The tears of the good and virtuous, should fall upon the turf that covers his remains, but let the base and vile keep at an awful distance, even from his tomb. Art thou a coward? Let not thy step pollute the ground that is hallowed by the

mounting ruins of the departed hero. Art thou a traitor, dare not to approach this sacred spot, lest the soul of the slumbering patriot should rush from its mansion of rest, and reproach thee for the foul intrusion.

Like every member of the human race, our friend too, must have had his imperfections—but, while we trace them as it were on the changing surface of the sand, let us record his virtues on everlasting monuments of marble. Had he his failings? we will remember but to avoid them—and let us retire from his grave, deeply impressed with a holy respect for his numerous virtues.

From London Papers.

Copy of a letter from General Brock, to Sir George Prevost, giving an account of the capture of Detroit:

"Headquarters, Detroit, Aug. 16, 1812.

"Sir—I hasten to apprise your excellency of the capture of this very important post. Two thousand five hundred troops have this day surrendered prisoners of war, and about 25 pieces of ordinance have been taken without the sacrifice of a drop of British blood. I had not more than seven hundred troops, including militia, and about six hundred Indians, to accomplish this service. When I detail my good fortune, your excellency will be astonished. I have been admirably supported by colonel Proctor, the whole of my staff, and, I may justly say, every individual under my command. Believe me, &c. (Signed)

"ISAAC BROCK, Major General.
"To his Excellency Lieutenant General Sir George Prevost."

"GROANS OF THE BRITONS."

From the London Evening Star of Sept. 29

To-day we continue our extracts from the American papers. Their aspect is certainly not pacific, and to this we have to add, from private sources of information, that the prevalent opinion in America is, that MADISON will not withdraw his declaration of war. That man is now about to shew himself in his true colours, but his career will be short. A few months war will annihilate the commerce of America, DISSOLVE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE FEDERAL AND DEMOCRATICAL STATES, AND PROBABLE PRODUCE AN INDISSOLUBLE LEAGUE BETWEEN G. BRITAIN AND THE NORTHERN STATES—so much for the attempt to introduce the Code Napoleon in morals and politics into the Councils of a free country.

From the Times of Oct. 7.

The disaster, to which the concluding sentence of the preceding observations refer, is one of that nature, with which England is but little familiar: it is the capture of one of her frigates, by the frigate of an enemy, and that enemy the Americans. Before we make any observations upon an occurrence so unusual, we shall present what may be considered as the Government account of it:—

"The *Guerriere* frigate Capt. D'ACRES, has been captured by the *Constitution* American frigate, after a gallant action, fought on the part of the *Guerriere* under the most disadvantageous circumstances; she having in the very first onset lost her mizen-mast, which made her perfectly unmanageable, and soon after the whole of her masts went overboard. The *Guerriere* had only at quarters 244 men; the *Constitution* 176, carrying 30 25-pounders her main deck, 24 22-pounders, and 2 18-pounders on her upper deck; the *Guerriere* had 15 killed and 63 wounded, and was found in such a state that the Americans were obliged to set her on fire."

The loss of a single frigate by us, when we consider how all the other navies of the world have been dealt by, is, it is true, but a small one; when viewed as a portion of the British navy, it is almost nothing; yet, under all the circumstances of the two countries to which the vessels who fought belonged, we know not any calamity if twenty times its amount, that might have been attended with more serious consequences to the worsted party, had it not been counterbalanced by a contemporaneous advantage of much greater magnitude.

As it was, the loss of the *Guerriere* spread a degree of gloom through the town, which it was painful to observe, but which was yet most honorable to the patriotism of those over whom it was diffused. The superior weight of metal possessed by the enemy,—the greater number of men,—the sinister accident at the commencement of the action, were all urged; yet people looked only to the triumph of the Americans, and to the increased disposition which it would give them to continue the contest. As to the triumph, it is, in truth, but small though it is yet such an one as will, no doubt, produce a rigorous investigation on the part of those at whose expence it has been procured; and the disposition to continue the contest will, as we have before observed, have received a timely correction by the affair of Upper Canada.

"The Navy!—ay—the Navy!—To catch the crown jewel of the King."

The following paragraph, from the *London Times*, a ministerial paper, shews their mortification at the idea of the British flag being struck to an American frigate of the high seas.—What will be the state of "high and honorable minds" when they hear of the loss of the sloop of war, *Alex and Frolic*, and the fine frigate *Macedonian*.
Bost. Pat.

We have been accused of sentiments unworthy Englishmen, because we described what we saw and felt on the occasion of the capture of the *Guerriere*.—We witnessed the gloom which that event cast over high and honorable minds; we participated in the vexation and regret; and it is the first time that we have ever heard that the striking of the English flag on the high seas to any thing like an equal force, should be regarded by Englishmen with complacency or satisfaction.

If it be a fault to cherish amongst our countrymen, "that chastity of honor which feels a stain like a wound," if it be an error to consider the reputation of our navy as tenderly and delicately alive to reproach—that fault, that error, we are likely often to commit; and we cannot but consider the sophistry, which would render us insensible to the dishonor of our flag, as peculiarly noxious at the present conjuncture. It is not merely that an English frigate has been taken, after what we are free to confess, may be called a brave resistance; but that it has been taken by a new enemy, an enemy unaccustomed to such triumphs, and likely to be rendered insolent and confident by them. He must be a weak politician, who does not see how important the first triumph in giving a tone and character to the war.—Never before in the history of the world did an English frigate strike to an American; and though we cannot say, that capt. Dacres, under all circumstances, is punishable for this act; yet we do say, there are commanders in the English navy, who would a thousand times rather have gone down with their colors flying, than leave their brother sailors so fatal an example.

PRINTED BY

JOSEPH DESNOUES,

No. 61, CHURCH-STREET, NEAR MURRAY,
WHERE PRINTING IN GENERAL IS EXECUTED

ON REASONABLE TERMS.